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The Communicator

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Adjusting to Change

New Child Care Partnership Sparks Mixed Emotions

By Melissa R. Hirsch
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The merge between The Learning Center (TLC) and IPFW's Child Care Center (IPFW CCC) has been a topic of discussion, debate and mixed emotions for the past few months. Even now, after the decision has been enforced and the move is complete, there are still some who continue to be frustrated by the partnership.

OpEd

Students Need a Strong Financial Watchdog

By Andrew Merki
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High-cost, unregulated private student loans are just one example of why we need a strong Consumer Financial Protection Agency (CFPA). Indiana's senator, Evan Bayh, sits on the Senate Banking Committee and is a key vote to create a robust new watchdog that would keep an eye on the loan market for students, and set strong rules for fairer private student loan marketing and terms.

As someone who will graduate with about $70,000 in private loan debt from IU Bloomington, I urge the senator to create the CFPA.

We've been told since we were young that a college degree is the key to our future. Now that I've been in college for a few years, I also understand how society benefits from our education. We are challenged to form a vision for impacting the world, and we get the training and tools necessary to do it. I entered college intent on getting a business degree, to make the big bucks, but now I've set my sights on a career in public service when I graduate. My education at IU helped mold my political and social views in important ways and helped reform my priorities. I am deeply grateful for it.

But at some point the benefits of a college degree are undercut by the deep financial risk students take on to get it. The Indiana Public Interest Research Group, a consumer advocacy organization at IU Bloomington, just released a report finding that 62 percent of Indiana's college graduates carry student loan debt, which averages $23,264 per student. Most is in the form of safer, federal loans. But a significant amount is in private student loans, which are unregulated and much riskier. Indiana students graduated with an average of $3,556 in private student loans in 2008.

This is where the picture becomes even bleaker. Interest rates on private student loans can be as high as 18%, and fees can be pegged at 10 percent of the loan principal. And marketing is aggressive. Consider that 2 out of 3 borrowers with private student loans forgo taking out the maximum in federal loans for which they qualify! The combination of shrinking state investment in higher education, stagnant federal grants and less parental assistance has left us students picking up more of our educational tab.

"...IU Bloomington just released a report finding that 62 percent of Indiana's college graduates carry student loan debt, which averages $23,264 per student."

Against this backdrop, we are prime targets for private student lenders, standing by with the easy financing we need to attain our dreams.

The 33,000 students in Indiana who attend for-profit colleges are really taken for a ride. Graduates from for-profit colleges carry an average of $32,650 in debt. Many of these colleges make their own private loans to the students, promising students a high paying job at graduation to handle the repayment. In reality, those loans are a rip-off. Corinthian Colleges actually plans for over 50 percent of its private student loan borrowers to plunge into default.

Being the third child to enter college, I am fortunate to have a father who is seasoned in the loan process. However, even with a financially savvy father, I haven't gone through the past three years without some bumps in the road. My private loans were originally taken out through Sallie Mae. This year, my father and I discovered that the terms had changed significantly since my freshman year. As a result, we stopped borrowing from Sallie Mae and took out this year's loan through my hometown bank. We considered a federal PLUS loan for my parents to help pay the costs, but the requirement to make payments while in college made it an unfeasible option.

Taking out these private loans was initially an easy decision I made together with my dad when I planned on a business degree. But now I can't help but feel a little trapped when I consider the reality of a lower paying social service career combined with high private loan repayment.

The bottom line is that the level of debt I have taken on for my degree is my choice, regardless of the consequences. But at the very least, students and families should be assured that the private loan products that are out there in the marketplace are fair and transparent. And students should be protected from the predatory lending practices of their own institutions.

I think that a strong Consumer Financial Protection Agency would not only bring some badly needed security to the uncertain world of private student lending. Speaking first hand, it will help keep student dreams of a better world within reach.

Andrew Merki is a junior at Indiana University Bloomington, and the chair of the Indiana Public Interest Research Group.

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Adjusting to Change

continued from front

By Melissa R. Hirsch
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Former teacher at the IPFW CCC and current student at IPFW, Katie Clark, says although she was skeptical in the beginning, she is pleased with how the partnership is forming. In any new business transition, adjustments must be made. Clark mentioned that the facility is larger and newer than their previous location; a nice change over the previously crowded rooms that IPFW CCC had before. TLC is a better equipped facility that allows for so many extra things that the previous Child Care Center did not; one example: meals. TLC has a kitchen that allows children to be served food instead of requiring parents to pack lunches daily. For parents, this is a huge relief and saves a lot of time. For staff, this is a huge adjustment, one that will come easily once the staff develops a routine. A "bump in the road" as one staff member told me. Overall the staff, Katie Clark included, seems pleased to be there; yet, while they enjoy their new director, they were quick to say how much they missed Lynda Place, their former director (that was left without a position at TLC), and the kids from the previous semester that did not join in the transition. The staff is hopeful that after this semester enrollment will steadily increase and that TLC will continue to grow.

According to TLC's Assistant Director, Risha Swoverland-McLellan, who was the Assistant Director for the IPFW CCC as well, states, "We have a little over 70 children enrolled at the center. The majority of them are children of IPFW students, faculty and staff. We have 10 of the students who worked at the IPFW CCC of the 17 staff we had there."

Swoverland-McLellan also says that TLC's current, greatest demand is for infant and toddler care; an issue that held many restrictions for the previous IPFW CCC.

Former parents, however, do not feel the same and continue to be unhappy about the decision. Several parents spent countless hours during December trying to overturn the IPFW Administration's decision to merge with TLC so quickly. Two mothers (who are also IPFW students) formed a group for "On-Campus Childcare" and met on several occasions with the chancellor and vice-chancellors to discuss topics of concern. Their last meeting involved a proposal that requested the opening date of TLC be held off until the end of the academic year. After being turned down, parents were certain they were fighting a losing battle. The next best step: remove their children from the IPFW CCC and withhold them from attending TLC. Some of the local preschools and childcare centers have noticed an increase in enrollment because they have decided to offer IPFW students, staff and faculty discounted fees after learning of the merge to an off campus location.

Only time will tell as to the success of TLC; the facility, like any other new business, is still fine-tuning its daily routines during this first week of classes. While one never wishes for any portion or chapter of IPFW to fail, one can certainly wish for TLC's success and the eventual transition back to an on campus location.

Walking Blue into that Fourth Wall

by Curtis L. Crisler
-for Larry Life

My two feet can never muster past north end of the Rhinehart Music Center. Looking out angled windows whose forms would be crafty in Fort Wayne's historical district. Wiliams Theatre yards away, but I can't open threshold, leave music center, go back to old house where I'm intimate with mirrors, floors and dressing-rooms; it has taken so much and given so less since Larry stood in entrance of that auditorium, talking his lift about his new recruits, on semi-happy, lost in what to do with his young jittery actor - Should I scrap it, or reblock the 1st act?

"That house for fools, lovers, and fakes." I walk by the office of Cynthia Greider, back south, on the second floor, and a clarinet tries to play me a Saturday like it's supposed to be heard-halls reconstitute reverberation from a jazz I left in my office. How radio's piano gets magnificent with only eighty-eight people, stops me in front of a White Oak and White Ash sitting in front of cold gazebo, like many years before, when my theatre class sat struggling about intentions of the main man in a Albee play. How play plays its tink tink tink tink on tumbler in my gut.

"How did I leave doors of music center without knowing all first times stay stuck all first times?" The trees have cried their leaves to the ground. The last time I saw his face, he was not good-his rehearsal, worse. He would want me to forget. The show. Small things need fixed, like passion. I'll start slow, see The Yellow Boat, in our box theatre, where life started. My student, Adam, is tall in it, playing the best friend, somewhere over the rainbow, in a little place tucked inside the mind of a boy. There's always endings, but the beginnings are the hardest thing to ride on. I'll try allusion again, next time I am grading papers. I'll try Williams' lobby, like first time in eyes, and I'll sit beneath placard-in moan.

Little Friends at the Mocha Lounge

By Kristan Mensch
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The Mocha Lounge cut the ribbon on their "Little Friends" room Jan. 16, which was built in honor of Amanda Mclaughlin, an IPFW student who fell victim to a hit-and-run in Canterbury Green apartments Sept. 12, 2009.

McLaughlin had worked at the Mocha Lounge for two years, said owner Brian Till, adding that she was always a pleasure to have around and loved to entertain children when they came in with their parents.

The room, which is meant to serve as a comfortable and chic place for parents to enjoy their coffee while their children can play with various toys, was built completely off of donations, said Till. On top of that, it is also furnished with some of McLaughlin's possessions, including two couches, a table and chairs.

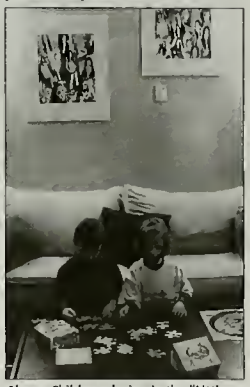
According to a note about McLaughlin which was framed inside of the "Little Friends" room, "Every child that walks through this door and plays with these toys is helping to honor Amanda's passion for fun and joy."

When the ribbon was cut and everyone was allowed to finally see the tribute to McLaughlin, the room was filled with comments about how much her personality showed through the decorations.

With glamorous light fixtures, pictures of high heels and zebra-print chairs, many people who had not met McLaughlin said that they could feel what kind of a person she was just being in the room.

Afterwards, a local band, The Ready Set, played a few songs - one of which was called "Sixty-Eight," and had been played at a memorial service for McLaughlin. While everyone reminisced, and some fought back tears, the love that was shared for McLaughlin was evident.

"She was so much more than just an employee," said Till, "she was a wonderful person to everyone that she met."



Above: Children playing in the "Little Friends" room.

Somewhere between the words "week old" and "pizza" you begin to wonder, "Do I have health insurance?"

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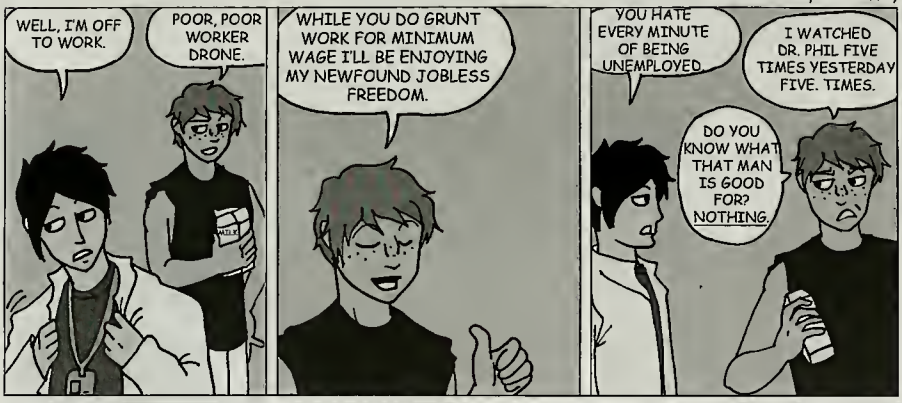
Coffee Break

by Kim Coffey



Awards Ceremony recognizes outstanding achievers

By Holly Eggelston
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IPFW students, staff and faculty gather together every April for an evening of celebration and appreciation at The Student Achievement Awards ceremony held in IPFW's Walb Ballroom.

"This event is held to recognize outstanding achievements and acknowledge hard work," explains April Wirt, the event coordinator.

Awards are available for almost any member of the IPFW community, from faculty to students and everyone in between.

One of the most coveted recognitions is the Outstanding Student Organization Award. In order to win this award the group must make an impact on IPFW, show support for the IPFW community and exhibit university pride. Last year's winner was Delta Sigma Pi.

The Student's Choice Award for Teaching Excellence recognizes outstanding effort in teaching and is available for faculty only. The Award for Service to Students is also limited to staff.

The Student Leader of the Year Award is meant for students, not necessarily members of a student organization, who have made a significant impact on IPFW and shown IPFW pride. There are several new awards this year including the Building Block Award which is geared towards newer organizations and the Commitment to Diversity Award which recognizes individuals or groups that have made a difference in the area of diversity at IPFW.

Everyone is encouraged to nominate outstanding faculty, staff or students who they feel deserve recognition. Nomination forms are available from academic departments and club presidents, as well as the Student Life website under Student Achievement Celebrations.

The forms list the qualifications for each award and detailed submission instructions. They should be turned in to the Student Life Office by Wednesday, March 3 at 5 p.m. April Wirt can be reached at wirtaa@ipfw.edu for questions regarding this event.

Rumored Apple Tablet Said to Be Announced Next Week

By Craig Lloyd
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The biggest rumor of 2009 and also this year so far has to be the Apple tablet. Many rumors have been spreading about this magical device ever since early last year and Apple will hopefully be addressing these rumors by announcing this so-called Apple tablet on Wednesday, January 27. If you have been living in a basement for the last several months, let me get you caught up.

The Apple tablet is still very much a mystery, since no one really knows exactly what it will look like or even what it will be called, but there is a lot of evidence that gives hints to all of our questions. Many believe that the device will be called the iSlate because Apple owns the islate.com domain name and have filed for other "slate" trademarks, but I have also heard iPAO, iGuide and TabletMac. Any of these are viable options, as well as others, but it seems Apple has been putting a lot of focus on the word "slate."

As far as features, the tablet is said to have around a 10-inch touch screen display and an aluminum shell much like what you see on Apple's higher-end MacBook Pros. As far as the operating system goes, there has not been a definite agreement amongst reporters. Some say it will be running iPhone OS and others say it will be based off of Mac OS X. According to Boy Genius Report, they received a tip from an Apple insider who says the tablet will be running iPhone OS. There's a strong rumor that will not have any kind of camera. Physical buttons on the device are still up in the air and have not received much discussion. It has also been said that the device will most likely have Wi-Fi and 3G capabilities.

The price of the Apple tablet is probably everyone's biggest question and I have heard the same price range from many different sources – between $700 and $1,000; this thing will not be cheap. Steve Jobs pretty much told us himself that it will not be under $500.

"We (Apple) don't know how to build a sub-$500 computer that is not a piece of junk," said Jobs.

As far when it will hit consumers, you can probably expect it no earlier than March and no later than June of this year. The Wall Street Journal heavily reports that it will come in March and iLounge.com says it will come in May or June, so there is really no definite agreement amongst reporters and analysts on when it should officially arrive.

Besides visual design students, this device will not do much for students. Tablets are all about steering away from traditional ways of interacting with computers. This means saying goodbye to the mouse and keyboard and saying hello to voice commands and finger-swiping gestures. So, all of those long research papers and in-class notes that you need to write will most likely want to be done on your laptop like it was meant to be. Granted, the Apple tablet will most likely have an on-screen QWERTY keyboard, but it will not play nicely with prolonged sessions of paper writing and note taking. However, I see the Apple tablet, as well as other tablets, eventually replacing eBook readers. This means that the device will be great for reading textbooks. As of now, though, there are still a large percentage of textbooks out there that are not in digital form, so it could take awhile before we see the tablet be used for something like that.

Got an Opinion?

Send us your feedback to editorinchief@ipfwcommunicator.org

Photo by Felipe Marquez

Smoke Hut Diaries

By Robin Crowell
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"Spread the love but choose your friends wisely." – Chuck Ragan, "For Goodness Sake"

During the first week of classes it became evident that alliances from the prior smoke hut community still hold golden and true. There are a handful of us that have repeatedly been in attendance at the same hut over the last few semesters and some even years.

The new people that I have noticed coming into the hut seem somewhat lost on what to make of the hut staples. Seemingly it would almost come off as a 'smoke hut clique' of sorts. It would be unfair to say this is a false statement but at the same time it is not my intention to exclude a new face.

With every new individual comes a new story. In a way we all need to break our own barriers, read some of these stories. It all starts with one simple statement of "Hey, I'm (_____), how are you?" The possibilities that may potentially unfold are countless. Out of this one simple gesture, a hand shake, a smile; you may find a friend, a lover, a foe or an enemy. What saddens me most about people not making the effort to say hello or meet a stranger is that most are afraid to encounter this risk of meeting a potential foe or enemy. Really, though, there is not more of a risk is walking out of your front door each morning.

"What saddens me most about people not making the effort to say hello or meet a stranger is that most are afraid to encounter this risk of metting a potential foe or enemy."

It is my mission to all of you to step out of your boundaries and talk to someone new, at least once a week... if not more. We familiarize ourselves with our close circle of friends, our co-workers, our family and that is all fine and good but we all seem to be missing the big picture when it comes to being well-rounded people. I am guilty of it, you are guilty of it, our friends and family are guilty of it. We have to take matters into our own hands to try to resolve this problem of close knitting.

We all meet for a reason; there is a time and a place for everything. I have no idea where I would be today, though, had it not been for my going out on a limb and getting to know someone that maybe I judged by their appearance. Maybe I judged them by the group they ran with. Maybe I judged them because they looked at me the wrong way. Several of the people closest to me are people that I never thought I would get along with, see eye to eye with, and some I never thought I would see again the rest of my life. Make acquaintances, make small talk, make connections. It is better to get to know someone and discover a monster of a person than to never talk to someone and miss out on an angel.

For the Love of Traveling

By Hana Al Hawash
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Cincinnati: definitely not a lot of difference from Fort Wayne there. Just visiting some relatives, but the part that makes it so different for me is where my relatives come from. My dad's sister, Lubna, moved to Cincinnati about three years ago. She is from Palestine, like my father, and so is her husband. So, going to visit may not provide a change in scenery, but it definitely makes me feel like I am half a world away.

The city itself is pretty much the same as Fort Wayne. No mountains, barely any hills and a lot of farms. There are upper class neighborhoods with Mercedes SUVs in their driveways, and there are lower class homes with broken down Buicks in the front yard. Then you have the middle class with their Hondas and Kias, just like Fort Wayne. But then I get to my aunt's house, and things start to change.

"Every meal is a celebration, every talk is a debate and every evening is a party."

Every meal is a celebration, every talk is a debate and every evening is a party. My aunt lives in a small apartment and one of her four children, my favorite cousins, is married and has her own house. My parents stay with my aunt, and I roll out to my cousin's house to get a break from them. But that is just at bed time, which does not usually come until around one in the morning.

During the day, we usually all go to my aunt's and hang out. When we get together, we are all happier. We are a family; we make fun of each other, dance to our parents singing funny old Arabic songs and listen to their childhood stories. We eat classic Arabic dishes and ask for the hummus and pita rather than the bagels and cream cheese. My aunt does not shake my hand or coldly hug me, she kisses my cheek constantly. The men definitely do not do the dishes, but the woman all pitch in and that, too, becomes a party. Even though we are all grown, me being the youngest at twenty years old, our dads still talk to us like we are about to run off and cause trouble.

In Cincinnati, the scenery is the same, but the culture shock is powerful.

Advice Column

How do you make friends on the first day of class?

By Hana and Devin
Writers

Devin: I say, push them back and see who is still there.

Hana: What do you mean?

Devin: If they like the eagles, and you like the colts, do not be afraid to say you like the colts. You may push some people away, but those who do like the colts will be on your side. Thats just an example, do not hold things back.

Hana: I actually agree with that. But I also think that if you are feeling sort of awkward and do not know what to say, you could start out by complimenting something about them or asking if this is a their first time being in that particular professors class.Or even make a joke about something odd someone in class said...it lightens the mood and breaks the ice.I think my idea is what you start out with, and your idea is something you can do later into the conversation or relationship.

Devin: Yes, but why profong the inevitable? Win them over so when you do show your weird side, they might still stay?

Hana: Well you cannot just walk up to someone and be like "Hey, I'm going to not like what you like, that way I know if you are a good friend or not." The conversation has to start somewhere. You have start a conversation, then once you are talking, you can do that.

Devin: It seems like thats being afraid to scare them off. I rather be completely myself and gain one really good friend then be polite and reserved and have friends I probably will not talk to after that class is over.

Hana: Alright. See we were at different starting points. I was thinking in the scenario of me wanting to make a friend from the beginning and you were thinking if the opportunity presents itself, then you'd go for it.

Devin: Yes, I think you are right as well.

Hana: Alright. See we were at different starting points. I was thinking in the scenario of me wanting to make a friend from the beginning and you were thinking if the opportunity presents itself, then you'd go for it.

Devin: I think where our opinions disagree is how we value the friendship that we are making. I rather make a friend that will last longer than a class and become a good, close friend that i would hang with outside of school. Short term, semester friends just are not always worth it.

Hana: I completely agree with your point. I want to make true friendships, we were just thinking from different starting points.

Artist Spotlight
Kim Yoder

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By Holly Gallaway
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Music has been a part of Kim Yoder's life for a long time. When she was younger, however, she was considering going into the psychology field. Currently a junior here at IPFW, Yoder has found a major that combines both passions: music therapy. She is planning on working hard to finish her degree in a total of four years—something that requires hard work, long hours and a lot of focus. Despite knowing what field she wants to work in, Yoder does not have a job relating to it just yet—she works in the Admissions office here on campus. She says she came across the major by taking a survey online relating to what occupation one would excel with. Even further than finding a major to combine her passions, she is currently enrolled in a class that relates to exactly what she wants to do—music therapy in health care. Yoder says it is her favorite class so far this semester.

"I want to do research," Yoder says. She also wants to be involved in patient care, whether in a hospital or a psychiatric ward. She has a lot of hard work ahead of her, though. After Yoder graduates, she not only has to complete a six-month internship in her chosen field, but she is also planning on attending graduate school. Yoder is looking at New York City, South Carolina and Colorado.

As a music therapy major, Yoder has had to expand her musical ability. She branched out from the flute (her primary instrument) and voice (her secondary) to proficiency in guitar and piano, among various other instruments. The acoustic guitar is what Yoder will be using most frequently in her work. She says she wants to use the piano more, but jokes that it is rather hard to carry a piano around with you. Since learning the guitar and piano, Yoder has "spent the last year working on music for others," she said.

She does realize, however, that it is about time to start working on music for herself. As far as what types of music she likes, Yoder says she has to keep an open mind. She listens to just about everything because she needs to have a wide range of musical knowledge for her work. Yoder says she is considered going to various open mic nights around town. She does, however, know music therapy majors that do play around town. If and when she does start participating in open mic nights, they will be the first people she calls.

Pie in

By Kelly McLendo
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Pie has always held a spo
the hearts of its fans. Whether
watching your grandma mak
pumpkin pie for Thanksgivin
fond memories of your elem
principal getting a pie in th
Family Fun Night, this dess
to have a place in your life.
importance of dessert at fam
celebrations, it may not come
that this Saturday, January 2
Pie Day. Yes, it is an entire d
can indulge and not feel bad,
all, it *is* a holiday.

But National Pie Day
In fact, the entire concept of p
is relatively new.

"Pie has been around sinc
Egyptians. The first pies w
early Romans who may have l
it through the Greeks. The
sometimes made in "reeds"
used for the sole purpose o
filling and not for eating wit
The American Pie Council sai

They were called "savory
then. These included shephen
is made with minced beef a
potato crust; as well as chic
which has mixed vegetables
chicken in a flaky crust.

The modern concept of pi
has existed since the 14th ce
it was documented in the Ox
Dictionary.

But the saying "as Americ
pie," originated a little furth
timeline when apples were b
Europe to America. The ap
already a popular dish there
soon became a success in
States. Then the demograp

By Robin Crowell
robinyourgrave@gmail.com

BIN'S
VIEWS

Artist: Over Stars and G
Album: *Consider This Yo*
Label: Black Numbers
Release Date: Re-Issue
2010
Sounds Like: The br
Banner Pilot and Nothingto
Rating: 5/5

This has to be one of the
bands to come out of the las
unfortunately they are loon

e in the Sky: National Pie Day is just Around the Corner

By Kelly McLendon
mclendon.kelly@gmail.com

s always held a special place in of its fans. Whether you grew up your grandma make homemade pie for Thanksgiving or you have ories of your elementary school getting a pie in the face during n Night, this dessert is bound place in your life. Knowing the ce of dessert at family meals and ns, it may not come as a surprise Saturday, January 23, is National es, it is an entire day where you ge and not feel bad, because after holiday.

t National Pie Day is fairly new. entire concept of pie as a dessert y new.

s been around since the ancient . The first pies were made by ans who may have learned about n the Greeks. These pies were s made in "reeds" which were the sole purpose of holding the l not for eating with the filling," ican Pie Council said.

were called "savory pies" back se included shepherd's pie, which vith minced beef and a mashed ust; as well as chicken pot pie, s mixed vegetables, gravy and a flaky crust.

odern concept of pie as a dessert ed since the 14th century, where cumented in the Oxford English y.

e saying "as American as apple inated a little further down the when apples were brought from o America. The apple pie was popular dish there in 1780 and ame a success in the United hen the demographic changed and "Americans popularized the apple pie as the country became the world's largest apple-producing nation," according to *The Encyclopedia of American Food and Drink.*

National Pie Day is not just about having dessert, though. The American Pie Council created the day for a reason—to celebrate.

"The modern concept of pie as a dessert has existed since the 14th century, where it was documented in the Oxford English Dictionary."

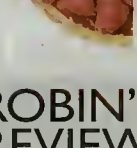
"As part of our American heritage, this day is a perfect opportunity to pass on the love and enjoyment of pie eating and pie making to future generations," the council said. "The coldest of January days will be warmed by a special pie dessert."

If you are not exactly the cooking type, you can look as close as your local Burger King to find the dessert today or this weekend. The restaurant usually serves Hershey's Sundae Pie, which includes a cocoa crust with chocolate filling, chocolate chips and whipped cream. Also, they typically have Dutch Apple Pie and sometimes other seasonal varieties.

For something not so commercial, yet close to campus, try Klemm's Candlelight Café on State. There they make homemade pie in lots of varieties. When the sign out front reads that they serve, "breakfast, lunch, pie," you know you are at the right place.

But if you are up for a short adventure, the short drive to Heyerly's Bakery in Ossian will take you to the right place. On the bakery's Facebook page, the butterscotch pie was recommended by a customer as their favorite.

You cannot go wrong celebrating this holiday; not when pie is regarded by the Council as, "a warm hug wrapped in a delicious crust." Now that is special.



PIE AROUND TOWN:
Klemm's Candlelight Cafe
1207 East State Boulevard
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Noises Off - Audition

by Michael Frayn
Directed by John O'Connell
Williams Theatre

Performance Dates:
April 23, 24, 29, 30 and May 1 at 8:00 p.m.
May 2 at 2:00 p.m.

The IPFW Department of Theatre will be holding auditions for *Noises Off* by Michael Frayn on Sunday, Jan. 31, 2010 at 1:30 p.m. in Williams Theatre. *Noises Off*, the classic comedy within a comedy, has been called the funniest farce ever written.

Cast – The director is looking for five (5) men and four (4) women ages 18—60.

Auditions: Actors are asked to prepare a 1-2 minute monologue from a contemporary farce, preferably an English farce using a British dialect.

Rehearsals: Begin Monday, March 2, 2010 Mon. Fri., 7—10:00 pm and possibly Sunday afternoons or evenings. There will be no rehearsal during IPFW's spring break from March 8—13.

Conflicts: All conflicts need to be listed at the audition.

Scripts: Be advised – DON'T audition if you have not read the play!!! You will be asked about it on the audition form. Perusal copies of the script are available for 24 hour loan through the Department of Theatre office with a $5 deposit. Call the office at 260-481-6551.

For Auditions

Please prepare a 1-2 minute monologue from a contemporary farce. Preferably an English farce. Please use a British dialect. The director will be looking for GOOD dialects, but will teach the process at the beginning of rehearsal.

Playwrights who have written appropriate monologues:

British:	American:
Michael Frayn	Ray Cooney, Jr.
Alan Ayckbourn	Neil Simon
Joe Orton	Ken Ludwig
Allen Bennet	

ROBIN'S REVIEWS

st: Over Stars and Gutters
um: *Consider This Your Curse*
el: Black Numbers
ease Date: Re-Issued January 12,
nds Like: The bridge between r Pilot and Nothingion.
ing: 5/5

has to be one of the most seamless o come out of the last few years and nately they are looming far under the radar.

The album opens with simplistic instrumentation showcased with perfection. Each musician in the band has their opportunity to shine and it is evident that the band has an understanding of each individual's talents needing to be showcased. Many of the songs are poppy without being campy and they fall into a genre which can only be described as 'whiskey punk.'

Although each song on the album is fantastic in its own way, a couple of stand out tracks include "The Pit and the Pendulum," effectively named after an Edgar Allan Poe short story, which lyrically proclaims the feelings of inadequacy that the majority of this publication's readership's age group falls into. "Twenty-three years and nothing to show accept some scars and broken bones. Hospital visits won't fix anything unless you want to fix it yourself."

Easily the best track on the album, "Never Again" utilizes enough power and energy to render the listener speechless all the while invigorating the internal urge to raise their fists in the air and scream every last lyric to the song.

Though some may say that the tracks on this album are too long than is typical for bands that fall within this genre; the tracks are lengthy but they do well to hold the listener's interest and never get boring.

Artist: Vampire Weekend
Album: *Contra*
Label: XL Recordings
Release Date: January 12, 2010
Sounds Like: Jungle music paired with electronic and reggae... kind of.
Rating: 2.5/5

Vampire Weekend has a good thing going for them, they really do. However, this album is a difficult one to maintain interest in.

First and foremost, the vocalization on the album is almost too strange for a random listener to get into and be able to appreciate. The intended audience either has to have an acquired taste for the fluctuations the vocalist makes or just have a very bizarre understanding of what a vocalist should sound like.

The first two tracks sound almost painfully similar, however the third track entitled "Holiday" comes in and offers a slight of relief. It seems to blend a more 'dancy' approach to the jungle style they are seemingly going for but blending it with some reggae implements throughout the verses.

The track immediately after negates any redemption that "Holiday" offered by getting even more vocally estranged than the two opening tracks. The only other song on the album that offers some normal sounding vocal styling is "Taxi Cab" which is more mellow with soothing vocal representation and backing music that at times is reminiscent of an old school video game.

This album is not bad by a long stretch, however its oddities can be enough to turn listeners away pretty quickly. Also, it seems that the point that each song is trying to reach is proclaimed fairly early in the tracks which could lend cause to many listeners losing interest pretty quickly in each song. It is worth a listen, however it is probably something that would be ran through the CD player once or twice then thrown to the wayside.

Photos from the Rally for Rail that took place on January 16, 2010 at the Baker Street Train Station

Photo by Lucas Carter / LucasCarterPhotography.com

OpEd

The Downside of Employment

Bad days show why it can be scary to have a job

By Kelly McLendon
mclendon.kelly@gmail.com

I cannot seem to keep a job. It is not because I am not a good worker, either; it is just that I have not found anything that really inspires me to show up everyday with enthusiasm. Do not get me wrong—I have never been fired from a job; usually, I just quit.

There was the time I worked at a major department store for four days and then quit because the fellow workers were a whole lot less than friendly. Then there was the time I worked at an afterschool program for little kids where I avoided changing diapers and ran away whenever some kid needed a new one. I made the old lady who worked with me take care of those. There is no way $7.50 an hour is enough of a salary to get me to do that. Seriously.

My next job took me to an office where I essentially filed and shredded papers for five hours at a time. It does not seem like it—but those two things are mindless. A trained monkey could have done my job there. In fact, he probably could have done my job better. He likely would have impressed the managers with his coffee-making skills, something I regretted not being able to do.

Through my adventures navigating unsteady employment, I have encountered many shocking aspects of working. I have enough horror stories by now that I could write a book.

But my worst horror stories go back to my high school days when I worked for a not-to-be named famous fast-food restaurant. It was a place where I learned how to wash dishes and cut vegetables, two skills I had embarrassingly not acquired by that time. But it was also a place where I saw how disgusting some workers could be when they were making food for customers.

"Through my adventures navigating unsteady employment, I have encountered many shocking aspects of working. I have enough horror stories by now that I could write a book."

Generally, a few employees thought if they were not going to eat the food they were preparing, it did not matter. An entire entrée would fall on the floor and some workers would pick it up and serve it, as long as the customer did not see it. Our managers drilled us about reducing food cost, so some of the more loyal employees brushed the food off and had the customer pay for it anyway. It was disgusting.

Also, there were times where ingredients that needed to be refrigerated to reduce contamination were not. I recalled one situation where an employee left mayonnaise out in the hot kitchen for three hours and then used it on someone's meal and then joked about it in the backroom after the fact.

In sixth grade home economics, my peers and I were forced to watch a video about a family at a picnic who ate potato salad that was left out in the hot sun for four hours and how that evening, they all ended up in the hospital with substantial food poisoning. I knew what that employee had done spelled disaster. But after my fellow worker had already made the meal and the customer left the restaurant, there was nothing I could do to tell them they might be getting ill that evening.

All I know is that I will never order anything from the restaurant I worked at and I will also be weary about going to other restaurants. Now that I know what *could* happen, I am more informed; yet not scared. Indeed, there is a reason why we have an immune system.

Now it's your turn to share your horrible work stories. E-mail us at contact@ipfwcommunicator.org and we might publish your story in our next issue.

IPFW to the world

International student athletes sharing their personal stories

By Oliver Kook
oliverkook@gmail.com

For some of us it is a childhood dream that became reality, for others it is the opportunity to get a college education, but some just wanted to expand their horizon and experience a new world far away from home. Being an international student at IPFW can have many different backgrounds or reasons, but they all have the same vision once it comes to student athletes as they put on their royal blue jerseys.

My name is Oliver Kook. I was born and raised in Hamburg, Germany I came to IPFW in the summer of 2007. This is my third and final season for the Mastodons' men's volleyball team.

Throughout my time at IPFW I got to meet many people from many different countries. Every one of them has great stories to share, that do not get the chance of being heard by many others. Living in a different country takes away the chance of sharing experiences with families and friends. 'IPFW to the world' is the attempt to put student athletes from different countries in the spotlight; giving them a chance to share their story, as well as it should educate our readers about different countries, sports, and cultures.

"If you are a student athlete and you want to share your story with your fellow students, please feel free to contact me."

For me it was an easy transition to start college at IPFW. As of the first day, I felt like I found a new family in my teammates. The open-mindedness and the respect I got made me lose all my worries and concerns that I had for leaving my life back home behind me to start a new chapter. The language problems I had in the beginning changed my personality quite a bit but over time I got used to being foreign.

Looking back at my first match for IPFW, I knew I made the right choice in my life. I will never forget the feeling of stepping on the court for the first time, knowing that I got myself into something that will change my life completely. Of course

I miss home, my family and my friends and I wish I could just jump on the plane to go say hi sometimes, but in the times of email, Facebook and Skype, it is easy to stay in contact with everyone. Regardless, not being able to go home for Christmas because of practice still feels wrong to me.

One question I always here is: "Are you going back home when you are done with school?" And I think about it every day, but can we honestly predict what is going to happen years from now? Three years ago I would never have guessed that I will be going to school in Fort Wayne, Indiana, but things just happen I guess. I play the sport that I love, while getting a college degree and meeting new friends from all over the world. I feel like I do my part in times of globalization as the world moves closer together.

This column will introduce other international student athletes from IPFW every week. If you are a student athlete and you want to share your story with your fellow students, please feel free to contact me.

Health Advantage 101:

Sleeping Habits & Exhaustion

By Ana Aguirre
agulal01@students.ipfw.edu

There comes a time when exhaustion sets in from school related events. Whether the exhaustion derives from an overload on homework, excessive partying or just a couple of late night study sessions, it is important to know your limits.

As suggested by www.webmd.com, 7-8 hours of sleep a day is necessary to contribute to a healthy lifestyle. Predicting that most students are overly active and are most likely sleep deprived the consequences could be extreme to your health.

Various symptoms that are most common if your sleeping habits are not up to par are bad thought processes, impaired memory, depression and a weekend immune system.

"With work and school combined, I do not get much sleep," says junior Jen Collins. "I find that relaxing before bed helps you to wind down from a busy day."

The best remedies are not brain science, but a little step in the right direction may reconcile this type of behavior. WebMD suggests avoiding napping, cutting caffeine, avoid smoking (cigarettes contain caffeine). Exercise is actually recommended to help exhaust the body naturally. Restricting alcohol consumption is a critical amongst college students to maintain a healthy sleep pattern.

Give some of these suggestions a try, you may find that some quick fixes could lead you in the right direction for a good night's rest.

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The Fish Picks (9-9) VS. (12-6) Pea Predictions

10 Clemson- UPSET in ACC	Duke at Clemson	Duke- ACC best wins large 10
9 Lady Vols- Impressive road victory	Tennessee at LSU	Lady Vols- Win again 9
8 Penguins- Best players in hockey	Capitals at Penguins	Penguins- best team in hockey 8
7 Pitt- Tough game upset late	Georgetown at Pittsburgh	G'town- Rolling, Pitt faulters 7
6 Texas- Biggest challenge so far	Texas at UConn	UConn- Texas is overrated 6
5 Lady Vols- Big test, grade W	Tennessee at Georgia	Lady Vols- Better in the end 5
4 Cavs-It's the LeBron show	Lakers at Cavaliers	Cavs-Great game 4
3 Syracuse-Very good at home	Georgetown at Syracuse	Syracuse-Great game won late 3
2 Colts-Payback from season	Jets at Colts	Colts-No stopping them now 2
1 Saints-Great offense over D	Vikings at Saints	Vikings-Saints fall apart 1
By Lucas Fisher / lucoruco8@comcast.net		By Logan Pea / pealt01@students.ipfw.edu

60 Second Sports Report

By Lucas Fisher
lucoruco8@comcast.net

In the NFL this past weekend the divisional playoffs were underway with the Colts beating the Ravens 20-3, the Saints destroying the Cardinals 45-14, the Vikings tearing apart the Cowboys 34-3, and the Jets upsetting the Chargers 17-14. After these results the AFC and NFC championship games will be the Jets at the Colts and the Vikings at the Saints. The Colts look to gain revenge on the Jets for ending their perfect season in week 15. The Jets are looking to show that their last three wins haven't been flukes. The Saints and Vikings look to continue their impressive season with offense and defense in a highly competitive matchup. In sad off the field news the Bears defensive end Gaines Adams passed away; he died of cardiac arrest from an enlarged heart, he was only 26 years old.

In college basketball on the men's side the current top five in the AP poll are Texas, Kentucky, Kansas, Villanova, and Syracuse. In the weeks top 25 showdowns on Saturday 5 Syracuse held on against 9 West Virginia 72-71, 10 Tennessee survived over 23 Ole Miss 71-69 in overtime, 18 Georgia Tech upset North Carolina 73-71, on Sunday 4 Villanova held off 11 Georgetown 82-77, and on Monday 9 Kansas State upset 1 Texas 71-62. On the women's side the current top five in the AP poll are UConn, Stanford, Tennessee, Notre Dame, and Ohio State. Number one UConn absolutely destroyed 3 Notre Dame and 6 Duke to continue their 57 game winning streak.

In tennis the first major tournament started on Sunday. The Australian Open has seen some drama in the first two days of the tournament. In the men's Juan Martin del Potro won his match in four sets, Rafael Nadal struggled early but pulled out the win in three sets, and Radek Stepanek was upset by Ivo Karlovic in five sets. On the women's side Justine Henin won in her comeback in straight sets, and Maria Kirilenko upset Maria Sharapova in three sets.

In the NBA the top five in the power rankings are the Cavaliers, the Lakers, the Jazz, the Spurs and the Magic. In dunk contest news defending champion Nate Robinson will compete this year to defend his crown as well as Gerald Wallace, Shannon Brown and the winner of a dunk-in (a matchup between Eric Gordon and DeMar DeRozan). LeBron James who said last year that he would enter the contest has backed out.

In the NHL the top five in the power rankings are the Blackhawks, the Sharks, the Devils, the Capitals, and the Predators.

Photo from zeenews.com

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The Communicator welcomes responses. Letters to the Editor must be signed, dated and accompanied by a current address, telephone number and class standing/major or title (if applicable). Letters not meeting these requirements will not be considered for publication.

All submissions made via e-mail will be verified by telephone or in person. Addresses and telephone numbers will not be published.

Submissions must be typed, and no more than 700 words.

The editorial board of The Communicator reserves the right to edit all submissions for length, grammar, style, and clarity. Letters deemed potentially libelous by the editorial board will not be published under any circumstances.

Women's Basketball: Junior, Jordan Zuppe, taking the ball down the coart in the game against UMKC.

Women's basketball team shows no sign of letting up

Tied atop Summit League standings

By Logan Pea
peal101@students.ipfw.edu

In the first portion of a Men's/Women's double header Saturday afternoon, the IPFW Women's basketball team fell to the University of Missouri-Kansas City 76-64. The loss was the first Summit League conference loss of the season, dropping their record to 7-9 overall and 5-1 in conference play. Any time your record in the conference "drops" to 5-1, I would say things are still looking up. Solid play by IPFW sophomore guard Anne Boese kept the Dons in the game throughout the afternoon. The points-in-the-paint category was dominated by the Kangaroos, as they outscored IPFW 32-16. IPFW found three women reaching double figures in the loss; Chelsey Jackson with 15, Jordan Zuppe with 12, and Stephanie Rosado with 11.

Anne Boese got the game rolling for IPFW on the first shot of the game as she buried a 3-point jumper to jump-start her big afternoon. The two teams went basket-for-basket, and the game was close all throughout the first half, until UMKC ended the half with a big two-point jumper to put IPFW in a 34-28 halftime hole.

Unfortunately for the Dons, UMKC came out rolling in the second half and extended their lead to ten just five minutes into play. With 10:35 remaining in the game, Chelsey Jackson knocked down a pair of free tosses from the charity stripe to cut the UMKC lead to three. Each time IPFW seemed to cut into the UMKC lead, it seemed as if the ball would just bounce the way of the Kangaroos. With just over three minutes to go, IPFW found themselves in a fourteen point hole, and coming back with that short of time seemed just out of reach, and the Dons were defeated for the first time in conference play.

The loss tied the IPFW with UMKC atop the Summit League Standings, and the Dons show no signs of letting up. Wednesday, January 20, the Women return to the Gates Center looking to send out non-conference foe Chicago State at 7 p.m, before they head on the road to battle North Dakota State, and South Dakota State on January 23, and January 25.

Hot start pushes Dons past Kangaroos

Yearby flirts with history

By Logan Pea
peal101@students.ipfw.edu

The IPFW Men's Basketball squad took the floor Saturday night for their second game in three nights. Anyone worried about fatigue possibly being an issue was proven "wrong" early as the 'Dons opened up an 8-2 lead thanks to a pair of three-balls by Zach Plackmeier and Ben Botts, then Plackmeier again on a jumper. IPFW found their leading scorer Saturday evening being sophomore guard Jeremy Mixon. Mixon tallied 17 points for IPFW, including six in a row mid way through the second half.

UMKC (8-9) never had a lead, and never tied the game all night. Every time the Kangaroos seemed to make a run to get back into the game, it was someone different stepping up each time for the 'Dons. With 13:18 to go in the first half, UMKC cut the lead to 10-8 on a pair of free throws, then shortly after it was John Peckinpaugh netting a jumper which sparked a 12-2 run for the 'Dons extending their lead to 22-10. The two teams would trade baskets for the remainder of the half, until Ben Botts knocked down his second triple of the night to send IPFW into the break with a 36-28 lead.

The second half would start just the way the first half ended with Ben Botts hitting a triple. Shortly after, it was Nick Daniels with 17:38 to go knocking down a three pointer of his own. Botts would hit one last three pointer with sixteen minutes to go to add to his sixteen points for the game and give IPFW a 49-32 lead. IPFW would control the game for the rest of the evening, and the crowd began to realize that the big man inside was flirting with what would be only the second triple-double in IPFW history. With under a minute to go, Delivez Yearby had 12 points, 10 rebounds and 9 blocks. With just eighteen seconds remaining, Alex Bazzell of UMKC drove into the lane and went up to attempt a lay-up. Being just one block short, Yearby leapt into the air to swat the ball, and did so much to the delight of the fans. Unfortunately, the whistle blew and Yearby was handed his fifth and final foul of the contest and the block was wiped clean. Yearby would have become the second player to net a triple-double only behind former IPFW player Demetrius Johnson who ironically had his triple against UMKC in 2007.

"...and the crowd began to realize that the big man inside was flirting with what would be only the second triple-double in IPFW history."

The 78-69 victory was the second in a row for IPFW improving the 'Dons to 8-9 overall and 3-4 in the Summit League. The Men's squad hits the road this weekend for a pair of games at North Dakota State and South Dakota State.

All Photos by Lucas Carter / LucasCarterPhotography.com

Men's Basketball: Junior, Ben Botts, going up for a shot in the game against UMKC.